

2006 Legislative Scorecard

Conservation Council of North Carolina is a statewide advocacy organization working on behalf of people who want to breathe clean air and drink clean water. Working through our affiliated political action committee, Conservation PAC, we help elect state legislators who make public health and conservation a priority, and we advocate for sound environmental policies.

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The 2006 Short Session Overview

The 2006 Legislative Session began under a cloud of scandal involving the Speaker of the State House. In the early days of the session, most observers were skeptical that much work would get done. However, surprising just about everyone, this summer's short session ended up being one of the most productive in memory.

The highest profile issue was the passage of the most significant lobby and ethics reform since the Watergate era. This reform bill passed both chambers by wide margins, setting the stage for genuine change in how our General Assembly does business. For example, lobbyists will no longer be allowed to make campaign contributions to legislators or candidates, turning off the tap of big money donors who have used large contributions to gain access. These reform bills are not perfect, but their passage signals that a new, more transparent age has arrived at the North Carolina General Assembly.

But it wasn't just the lobby and ethics reform that made this a good year at the General Assembly. Major stormwater legislation also passed, increasing the number of fully covered Phase II counties from 1 to 26. The Stormwater Management 2006 Act (S 1566), the product of significant negotiation and compromise, emerged as a relatively strong though imperfect bill. Environmental advocates had to agree to compromise language regarding development on land abutting shellfish waters, but other attempts to weaken the bill were beaten back.

In addition to the stormwater bill, our Schoolchildren's Health Act (H1502), which passed the House in 2005, cruised through the Senate on a unanimous vote in June. This bill requires ALL school districts in NC to adopt Integrated Pest Management plans, reducing use of pesticides and children's exposure to them. The act also addresses school bus diesel exhaust, mercury use in the classroom, and arsenic-treated wood. We beat back a strong attempt by the chemical lobby to remove the language on arsenic treated wood, defeating their amendment 28-17!

Finally, a moratorium on new mega-landfills passed both the

House and Senate by wide margins. This bill, the Landfill Moratorium and Studies Act (S353), establishes a 12-month moratorium on the construction of new mega-landfills while the state studies strategies to reduce the dumping of out-of-state trash in North Carolina.

Despite these high profile victories for the environment, we also suffered some significant defeats. The legislature missed a great opportunity to address energy consumption issues this year. Environmental advocates worked hard to craft legislation that addressed energy efficiency issues and set out a roadmap for weaning the state from dependency on foreign oil by opening the door to alternative energy sources. After initially agreeing to support a fairly strong energy bill, the big utility companies withdrew their support at the 11th hour, and the bill was weakened significantly at their behest.

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Conservation PAC: Using political clout to conserve the environment

Although the Conservation Council is an advocacy organization working to protect public health and the environment, we also work through our affiliated Political Action Committee—the Conservation PAC—to support candidates who are pro-environment. Many of the freshmen and sophomore legislators whose campaigns the Conservation PAC supported when they first ran have emerged as genuine environmental champions. These freshmen and sophomores can't change the legislature on their own, but they've formed a nucleus of committed environmentalists who are having enormous impact.

In November, North Carolina voters have an opportunity to make a difference by electing new environmental champions who will build on this foundation.

The Conservation PAC has endorsed 83 candidates for the legislature. Our short-term goal is to expand the number of environmental champions and to build an even larger base of support for our initiatives. Our long-term goal is to build an environmental majority at the General Assembly. Check out our endorsements at www.cncpac.org.

House Vote Descriptions

The legislature's 2006 Short Session was a mixed bag session for the environmental community. While the Land for Tomorrow and Clean Cars initiatives both died for lack of support, other forward thinking environmental efforts were successful. The House was largely responsible for crafting lobbying and ethics reform bills which may not go as far as we would like but are a great leap forward. The House joined the Senate in passing the Landfill Moratorium, new efforts to protect drinking well water, and very strong legislation addressing polluted stormwater run-off.

Weak Lobby Reform: HB 1843 Amendment 1, Weakened lobby reform efforts by raising the limit on gifts that legislators could receive without reporting

This amendment increased the limits on gifts that legislators could receive without reporting them from \$200 to \$1000. This amendment passed the House on a very close vote. While this language was eventually re-worked in conference committee, we include this vote as an indication of which legislators were committed to strong reform this year. **Status: The amendment passed the House.**

Nutrient Offset Payments: SB 1862, 2nd reading, Rolls back increases in the payment schedule associated with the state's nutrient trading program,

While nominally less noxious than the version the Senate passed, this bill included significant weakening of the state's nutrient trading program. It reverses increases in the per pound factor used by the Environmental Management Commission to calculate nutrient offset payments. The new payment structure had been adopted by the EMC after months of hearings and public input. The passage of this bill represents unnecessary legislative meddling in the rule-making process. **Status: Passed both houses and sent to the Governor.**

Decrease SO₂: SB 1587, Amendment 4, Would have ensured the reduction of SO₂ emissions by 99% Offered by Durham Representative, Paul Luebke, this amendment would have clarified and corrected conflicting language in the "Amend Environmental and Natural Resources" bill. The bill, as written, provides a loophole to utilities to allow them to reduce SO₂ emissions by somewhat less than the 99% reduction agreed to. Luebke's amendment attempted to close this loophole. **Status: Amendment failed.**

Weaken Emergency Drinking Water Fund, SB 1587, Amendment 5, Unnecessarily restricts funding for drinking water emergencies

This amendment, offered by Rep. Jim Crawford (D-Granville), dilutes the effectiveness of the state's new "Emergency Drinking Water Fund." Crawford's amendment weakens the fund by making it "reverting." This means that rather than keeping money in the emergency drinking water fund for use *as needed*,

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Senate Vote Descriptions

Generally more favorable on environmental matters than the House, the State Senate delivered several outstanding environmental initiatives but failed to deliver several others. Senate leaders Basnight and Clodfelter, among others, worked hard to push through the landfill moratorium and stormwater management legislation. However, the Senate failed to move Sen. Cowell's electronics recycling bill and the Land for Tomorrow campaign which would have put a \$1 billion bond referendum on the ballot to purchase and conserve land resources.

Weaken Nutrient Offset Payment: SB 1862, 2nd reading, Rolls back increases in the payment schedule associated with the state's nutrient trading program

The version of this bill which the Senate passed included significant weakening of the state's nutrient trading program. The bill reversed increases in the per pound factor used by the Environmental Management Commission to calculate nutrient offset payments. The new payment structure had been adopted by the EMC after months of hearings and public input. The passage of this bill represents unnecessary legislative meddling in the rule-making process. **Status: The House amended the bill to put back in some of the original language in the fee structure.**

Schoolchildren's Health Act: HB 1502, 2nd reading, Addresses 5 environmental health concerns on public school campuses

HB 1502 addresses five public health concerns for children on NC's public school campuses: pesticide use, arsenic treated wood, mercury, school bus diesel exhaust, and mold and mildew. This bill received broad, bi-partisan support, passing the Senate unanimously. **Status: This bill passed and was signed by the Governor.**

Arsenic Treated Wood Amendment: HB 1502, Amendment 1, Would have removed arsenic treated wood from covered categories in the Schoolchildren's Health Act **Status: This amendment was defeated.**

Private Wells: HB 2873, 3rd reading, Requires inspections of new wells and water quality testing

One third of North Carolinians receive their drinking water from private wells and, too often, these wells are contaminated. This legislation establishes a state-wide requirement that all new wells be tested for contamination at the time of construction and requires the testing of private wells whenever property changes hands. These proactive new regulations are designed to ensure that all property owners are aware of potential problems and take steps to correct them before public health issues occur. **Status: Passed and signed by the Governor.**

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HOUSE	Party	District	County	Lobby	Nutrient	SO2	Drinking Water	Stormwater	CAMA	Landfills	Energy	2006 Short Session	2005 Long Session	2005-2006 Score	2003-2004 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote:				NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	%	%	%	%
Adams	D	58	Guilford	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	75	100	88	75
Alexander	D	106	Meck.	+	+	+	+	+	E	+	+	100	100	100	100
Allen, B	D	33	Wake	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	88	90	89	64
Allen, L	D	49	Franklin	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	100
Allred	R	64	Alamance	-	-	-	-	-	E	+	+	29	70	50	33
Almond	R	67	Stanley	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	60	62	NA
Barnhart	R	82	Cabarrus	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	38	56	47	51
Bell	D	21	Sampson	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	68
Black	D	100	Meck.	+	-	-	0	+	+	+	+	63	INC	INC	INC
Blackwood	R	68	Union	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	25	50	38	55
Blust	R	62	Guilford	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	50	60	55	45
Bordsen	D	63	Alamance	+	-	+	-	+	+	E	E	67	89	78	100
Brown	R	73	Forsyth	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	NA
Brubaker	R	78	Randolph	+	-	E	E	E	+	+	+	INC	70	INC	65
Capps	R	41	Wake	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	75	67	71	26
Carney	D	102	Meck.	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	100
Church	D	86	Burke	-	-	-	-	E	+	+	+	43	80	62	41
Clary	R	110	Cleveland	-	-	E	E	E	+	-	+	INC	70	INC	71
Cleveland	R	14	Onslow	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	38	70	54	NA
Coates	D	77	Rowan	-	-	-	0	E	+	+	+	43	90	67	58
Cole	D	65	Rocking.	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	48
Coleman	D	39	Wake	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	75	90	83	NA
Crawford	D	32	Granville	-	0	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	80	65	71
Culp	R	70	Randolph	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	38	80	59	56
Cunningham	D	107	Meck.	-	-	-	+	+	0	+	+	50	78	64	INC
Current	R	109	Gaston	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	NA
Daughtridge	R	25	Nash	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	25	60	43	76
Daughtry	R	26	Johnston	-	-	-	-	+	E	+	+	38	50	44	44
Dickson	D	44	Cumber.	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	100
Dockham	R	80	Davidson	-	+	-	-	E	+	+	+	57	70	64	49
Dollar	R	36	Wake	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	NA
Earle	D	101	Meck.	-	-	E	E	E	+	-	+	INC	80	INC	68
Eddins	R	40	Wake	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	44
England	D	112	Rutherford	+	-	-	-	+	0	+	+	50	90	70	88
Faison	D	50	Orange	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	NA
Farmer-Butterfield	D	24	Wilson	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	INC	100	INC	75
Fisher	D	114	Buncombe	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	88	90	89	NA
Folwell	R	74	Forsyth	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	NA
Frye	R	84	Mitchell	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	25	50	38	61
Gibson	D	69	Anson	+	-	-	-	+	+	0	+	50	90	70	71
Gillespie	R	85	McDowell	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	38	50	44	43
Glazier	D	45	Cumber.	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	88	100	94	100
Goforth	D	115	Buncombe	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	78

+: pro-conservation vote -: anti-conservation vote E: excused absence (not counted in final %)

0: did not vote (counted as a ?? in final %) INC: Members did not cast enough votes to score N/A: No previous voting record

HOUSE	Party	District	County	Lobby	Nutrient	SO2	Drinking Water	Stormwater	CAMA	Landfills	Energy	2006 Short Session	2005 Long Session	2005-2006 Score	2003-2004 Score
Goodwin	D	66	Richmond	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	90	83	74
Grady	R	15	Onslow	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	55
Gulley	R	103	Meck.	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	38	60	49	49
Hackney	D	54	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
Haire	D	119	Jackson	+	+	-	-	E	+	+	+	71	100	86	94
Hall, L	D	29	Durham	NA	NA	+	+	+	+	+	+	100		50	NA
Harrell	D	90	Surry	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	75	80	78	61
Harrison	D	57	Guilford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
Hill	D	20	Columbus	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	70	60	65
Hilton	R	96	Catawba	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	38	60	49	49
Holliman	D	81	Davidson	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	61
Hollo	R	88	Alexander	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	NA
Holloway	R	91	Stokes	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	38	70	54	NA
Holmes	R	92	Yadkin	0	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	13	32	INC
Howard	R	79	Davie	+	-	E	E	E	+	+	+	INC	80	INC	45
Hunter	D	5	Hertford	0	+	-	+	0	+	0	0	38	70	54	INC
Insko	D	56	Orange	+	+	+	+	E	E	E	E	INC	100	INC	100
Jeffus	D	59	Guilford	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	100	75	78
Johnson, L.	R	83	Cabarrus	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	61
Jones, Earl	D	60	Guilford	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	75	90	83	84
Jones, Ed.	D	7	Halifax	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	70	60	NA
Justice	R	16	Pender	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	90	83	68
Justus	R	117	Henderson	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	55
Kiser	R	97	Lincoln	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	38	44	43
Langdon	R	28	Johnston	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	50	70	60	NA
LaRoque	R	10	Lenoir	-	-	-	-	E	+	-	+	29	70	50	65
Lewis	R	53	Harnett	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	25	78	52	55
Lucas	D	42	Cumberland	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	78
Luebke	D	30	Durham	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
Martin	D	34	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA
McAllister	D	43	Cumberland	-	-	+	+	+	E	+	+	71	80	76	75
McComas	R	19	New Han.	-	-	E	E	+	+	+	-	50	86	68	88
McGee	R	75	Forsyth	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	70	73	71
McLawhorn	D	9	Pitt	+	+	-	+	+	E	+	+	86	100	93	94
McMahan	R	104	Meck.	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	38	83	61	75
Michaux	D	31	Durham	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	80	65	74
Moore	R	111	Cleveland	+	-	-	-	E	-	+	+	43	80	62	43
Morgan	R	52	Moore	E	-	-	-	+	E	+	+	50	80	65	93
Nye	D	22	Bladen	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	61
Owens	D	1	Pasquotank	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	25	70	48	62
Parmon	D	72	Forsyth	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	E	71	100	86	75
Pate	R	11	Wayne	-	-	-	-	E	-	+	+	29	60	45	78
Pierce	D	48	Scotland	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	NA
Preston	R	13	Carteret	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	33
Rapp	D	118	Madison	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	88	100	94	100

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HOUSE	Party	District	County	Lobby	Nutrient	SO2	Drinking Water	Stormwater	CAMA	Landfills	Energy	2006 Short Session	2005 Long Session	2005-2006 Score	2003-2004 Score
Ray	R	95	Iredell	-	-	E	E	E	-	+	+	INC	70	INC	49
Rayfield	R	108	Gaston	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	38	70	54	40
Rhodes	R	98	Meck.	+	-	-	-	0	-	+	-	25	67	46	29
Ross	D	38	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
Sauls	R	51	Lee	-	-	-	-	E	E	E	-	INC	67	INC	75
Saunders	D	99	Meck.	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	38	90	64	68
Setzer	R	89	Catawba	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	70	60	45
Sherrill	R	116	Buncombe	-	-	E	E	E	E	E	E	INC	78	INC	78
Spear	D	2	Chowan	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	NA	INC	NA
Stam	R	37	Wake	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	61
Starnes	R	87	Caldwell	-	-	-	+	+	0	+	+	50	60	55	34
Steen	R	76	Rowan	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	60	55	NA
Stiller	R	17	Brunswick	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	80	65	100
Sutton	D	47	Robeson	-	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	63	80	72	75
Tolson	D	23	Edgecombe	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	78
Tucker	D	4	Duplin	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	70	73	NA
Underhill	D	3	Craven	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	90	83	NA
Vinson	R	105	Meck.	+	-	0	0	E	0	E	E	INC	60	INC	NA
Wainwright	D	12	Craven	-	-	-	-	+	+	E	+	43	88	66	76
Walend	R	113	Transylv.	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	75	75	34
Walker	R	94	Wilkes	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	60	55	58
Warren	D	8	Pitt	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	90	77	82
Weiss	D	35	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100
West	R	120	Cherokee	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	25	63	44	39
Wiley	R	61	Guilford	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	38	70	54	NA
Wilkins	D	55	Person	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	75	80	78	NA
Williams	D	6	Beaufort	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	63	70	67	69
Wilson	R	93	Watauga	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	70	60	68
Womble	D	71	Forsyth	-	-	+	+	+	0	E	E	50	100	75	100
Wray	D	27	Northhamp.	-	E	E	E	E	E	-	+	INC	70	INC	NA
Wright	D	18	New Han.	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	90	70	61
Yongue	D	46	Scotland	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	50	90	70	78

Freshmen of the Year: It's a Tie!

This year, the environmental community was fortunate to have a host of smart, hard-working freshmen legislators who place environmental matters at the top of their agendas. Conservation Council has named not one, but two, "Freshmen of the Year:" Rep. Grier Martin (D-Wake) and Rep. Pricey Harrison (D-Guilford).



Pricey Harrison emerged this session as an articulate and knowledgeable environmental leader. In particular, her deft handling of budget negotiations and dogged persistence helped secure the best budget in years in terms of funds for environmental

programs. Rep. Harrison also drew on her vast working knowledge of NC's environmental laws and history to advocate for stronger language in several key bills this year, most particularly a nutrient offset trading bill that was being pushed by big corporate developers.



Grier Martin took up the environmental mantle early by becoming the prime sponsor of our "Schoolchildren's Health Act" (H1502). Rep. Martin was a very strong advocate for this bill, helping fight off opposition for the treated wood industry, the chemical industry and others who feared the bill's passage. As a result, every school district in the state will now be required to adopt Integrated Pest Management programs.

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SENATE	Party	District	County	Nutrient	School Children	Arsenic	Private Wells	Storm Water	Landfills	2006 Short Session	2005 Long Session	2005-2006 Score	2003-2004 Score	2001-2002 Score
Pro-Conservation Vote:				NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	%	%	%	%	%
Albertson	D	10	Duplin	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	86	85	92	76
Allran	R	44	Catawba	E	+	-	+	+	+	80	86	83	79	69
Apodaca	R	48	Henderson	-	+	+	-	+	+	67	71	69	59	NA
Atwater	D	18	Chatham	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	100	92	NA	NA
Basnight	D	1	Dare	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	71	61	67	83
Berger, D	D	7	Franklin	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA	NA
Berger, P	R	26	Rockingham	E	+	-	-	+	+	60	57	59	59	69
Bingham	R	33	Davidson	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	83	83	90	69
Blake	R	22	Moore	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	71	61	67	NA
Bland	D	2	Craven	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	NA	NA	NA	NA
Boseman	D	9	New Hanover	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	NA	NA
Brock	R	34	Davie	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	57	54	59	NA
Brown	R	6	Onslow	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	71	61	NA	NA
Brunstetter	R	31	Forsyth	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	NA	NA	NA	NA
Clodfelter	D	37	Meck.	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	67	75	79	76
Cowell	D	16	Wake	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	NA	NA
Dalton	D	46	Rutherford	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	79	55
Dannelly	D	38	Meck.	-	+	+	+	E	+	80	71	76	79	83
Dorsett	D	28	Guilford	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	86	85	100	NA
East	R	30	Surry	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	57	54	NA	NA
Forrester	R	41	Gaston	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	71	61	INC	57
Garrou	D	32	Forsyth	-	+	+	E	+	+	80	71	76	100	83
Garwood	R	45	Wilkes	-	+	+	-	+	+	67	67	67	INC	79
Goodall	R	35	Union	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	57	54	NA	NA
Graham	D	40	Meck.	-	+	E	-	+	+	60	100	80	NA	NA
Hagan	D	27	Guilford	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	86	85	88	83
Hartsell	R	36	Cabarrus	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	78	93
Holloman	D	4	Hertford	-	+	-	E	+	+	60	86	73	INC	NA
Hoyle	D	43	Gaston	-	+	+	-	+	+	67	71	69	78	55
Hunt	R	15	Wake	E	+	+	-	+	+	80	86	83	NA	NA
Jacumin	R	44	Burke	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	60	55	NA	NA
Jenkins	D	3	Edgecombe	E	+	+	+	+	+	100	83	92	INC	NA
Kerr	D	5	Wayne	-	+	-	+	+	+	67	71	69	79	49
Kinnaird	D	23	Orange	+	+	+	+	+	+	100	100	100	100	100
Lucas	D	20	Durham	-	+	E	+	+	+	80	71	76	100	90
Malone	D	14	Wake	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	86	85	84	NA
Nesbitt	D	49	Buncombe	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	86	85	77	79
Pittenger	R	39	Meck.	E	+	E	-	+	+	INC	80	INC	50	NA
Presnell	R	47	Yancey	-	+	+	-	+	+	67	71	69	NA	NA
Purcell	D	25	Scotland	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	88	83
Rand	D	19	Cumberland	-	+	E	+	+	+	80	71	76	88	76
Shaw	D	21	Cumberland	E	+	-	+	+	+	80	60	70	71	90
Smith	R	12	Johnston	E	+	E	+	+	+	INC	71	INC	67	NA
Snow	D	50	Cherokee	-	+	+	-	+	+	67	100	84	NA	NA
Soles	D	8	Columbus	-	+	-	+	+	+	67	71	69	75	76
Stevens	R	17	Wake	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	67	NA
Swindell	D	11	Nash	-	+	+	+	+	+	83	71	77	79	86
Tillman	R	29	Randolph	-	+	-	-	+	+	50	71	61	58	NA
Webster	R	24	Alamance	-	+	-	-	-	+	33	57	45	42	37
Weinstein	D	13	Robeson	-	+	-	+	+	+	67	71	69	INC	82

House Vote *cont.*

unused monies must be given back to the state at the end of each fiscal year. Because drinking water emergencies do not happen on a predictable basis, we believe this new fund deserves stable resources. **Status: The amendment passed 72-36.**

Stormwater Management, SB 1566, 2nd reading, Expands county-wide coverage to 26 counties

This bill expanded, from 1 to 26, the number of counties which are required to implement county-wide environmentally sensitive Phase II stormwater regulations. Polluted run-off, caused when stormwater causes run-off from developed land, is the number one water quality problem in North Carolina. Rapid development in North Carolina's fast growing counties has led to the degradation of stream, river and lake water throughout the state with shellfish waters along the coast being particularly hard hit. **Status: Passed both chambers and signed by the Governor.**

Increase CAMA fines, HB 1523, Motion 11 Concurrence, Increases the civil penalty for development violations in coastal counties

This bill increases the fees assessed for development violations in covered coastal counties from \$250 to \$1000 for minor, and from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for major violations. These fees had not increased in decades and the fees were so low that they were no longer acting as a deterrent to poor development practices. **Status: Passed and sent to the Governor for his signature.**

Landfill Moratorium, SB 353, 2nd reading, Establishes a 12 month moratorium on new mega-landfills in North Carolina

This bill establishes a 12 month moratorium on the permitting of new landfills in the state. The moratorium was pursued after several waste corporations wanted to site mega-landfills in a number of rural, poor communities, mainly in eastern North Carolina. This legislation directs the Environmental Review Commission to study ways to protect public health and the environment and to establish a joint legislative commission on environmental justice. **Status: This bill passed both houses and was sent to the Governor**

State Energy Use, SB 2051, 2nd reading, Directs the state to develop plans for reducing energy consumption

This bill directs the state to develop plans to increase the availability and use of alternative fuels in state-owned vehicle fleets, to develop plans to expand the biofuels industry in North Carolina, and to study ways to improve energy efficiency in state buildings. **Status: This bill passed and was sent to the Governor for his signature.**

Senate Vote *cont.*

Stormwater Management: SB 1566, 2nd reading, Expands Phase II coverage to 26 counties

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(Continued from page 1)

With high energy costs right now, an unstable political situation in the Middle East, our country's vulnerability to disruptions in energy supply, the environmental degradation caused by unchecked consumption of fossil fuels, and the growing interest amongst the general public in addressing global warming, the General Assembly failed spectacularly to address the pressing issue of energy consumption.

The Senate also caved in to pressure from special interest waste industries and let Sen. Janet Cowell's strong electronics recycling bill die, thus missing this opportunity to address a major environmental issue facing North Carolina.

And, perhaps most disappointingly, the effort to put a \$1 billion land conservation bond (Land for Tomorrow) on the ballot failed to survive the session. Advocates will continue to push this issue in 2007.

But the disappointments aside, 2006 was a reasonably good session for the environment. Passage of the Stormwater bill, the Schoolchildren's Health Act, and the Landfill Moratorium were all significant victories for citizens interested in protecting our environment and public health. We didn't win every battle, but we did better than we have in recent past and should be pleased.

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(Continued from page 5)

Our children will be learning and our teachers will be working in a safer environment because of Rep. Martin's hard work.

For the leadership both of these outstanding individuals exhibited this year, the Conservation Council is proud to name Rep. Pricey Harrison and Rep. Grier Martin our "**Freshmen of the Year!**" Hat's off to these two dynamic leaders who are making the state legislature far more interested in protecting the environment.

AVERAGE PARTY SCORES	2006 Short Session	2005-2006 General Assembly Average	2003-2004 General Assembly Average
House			
Republicans	48%	57%	53%
Democrats	67%	77%	78%
Total House	58%	67%	66%
Senate			
Republicans	62%	66%	63%
Democrats	79%	80%	85%
Total Senate	71%	73%	74%

2006 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

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